

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01635 161718Z

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ACTION AF-06

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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, UK, MZ, RH, SF, WA, PO

SUBJECT: PRESS CONFERENCE BY UK PERMREP RICHARD, MAY 15: AFRICA

1. DURING PRESS CONFERENCE, MAY 15, HELD AT UN, UK PERMREP RICHARD MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ABOUT GENERAL SUBJECT OF AFRICA:

2. RICHARD NOTED THAT CHANGE IN EXISTING RHODESIAN LEADERSHIP HAD MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR DISCUSSION CONCERNING RHODESIA TO BE LESS "DIVISIVE" AT KINGSTON COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE. COMMONWEALTH APPROVED UK APPROACH CONCERNING RHODESIA.

3. REGARDING A POSSIBLE OFFSET FUND FOR MOZAMBIQUE, SHOULD IT WISH TO COMPLY WITH SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA, RICHARD SAID UK APPROVED OF THIS PROPOSAL AND WOULD MAKE "GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION" UNDER A UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. HE SAID HIS COUNTRY HAD HAD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS WITH UNSYG WALDHEIM, EEC, US AND COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES CONCERNING PROPER UN MACHINERY FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 USUN N 01635 161718Z

SUCH A FUND. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION AS TO WHETHER US IS

RESISTING MAKING CONTRIBUTION, RICHARD SAID US IS ENCOURAGING AS TO PRINCIPLES BEHIND PROPOSALS BUT "LIKE ALL GOVERNMENTS, WANTS TO LOOK INTO THE PRACTICAL ISSUES SUCH AS COSTS."

4. REGARDING NAMIBIA, RICHARD EXPLAINED THAT US/UK/FRENCH DEMARCHE TO SAG WAS FOLLOWUP TO SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION OF LAST DECEMBER. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH SOUTH AFRICA HAS MOVED A CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE IN RESPECT TO RELATIONS WITH REBELS IN SOUTH AFRICA, THREE POWERS CONCERNED THAT SOUTH AFRICA CONTINUES TO OCCUPY NAMIBIA IN DEFIANCE OF UN RESOLUTIONS AND WORLD OPINION, AND THAT THEY HAD REASSERTED THEIR OPPOSITION TO FRAGMENTATION OF NAMIBIA. HE ADDED THAT HE BELIEVES TREND OF SAG POLICY IS IN DIRECTION OF INDEPENDENCE IN REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME. REGARDING UPCOMING SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON NAMIBIA, RICHARD SAID IT WOULD DEPEND ON ATTITUDE OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES AT THAT TIME, AS WELL AS ON WHAT VORSTER SAYS IN HIS MAY 20 STATEMENT AND THAT IT NOT POSSIBLE TO PREDICT AT THIS STAGE HOW ANY SC VOTE MAY GO.
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